

The Iowa Collector

Official Publication of the
Iowa Numismatic Association

*The Iowa Numismatic Association
Established in 1938*



In This Issue

The Forgotten Silver Kennedy Half Dollars



**Winter & Spring 2015
Volume 56 Number 1**

<http://ina.anacclubs.org>



**IOWA
NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION'S
77th Annual
COIN SHOW & CONVENTION**

October 24 -25 , 2015

Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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For Information:

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The Iowa Collector

Official Publication Iowa Numismatic Association

Volume 56, Number 1

January 2015

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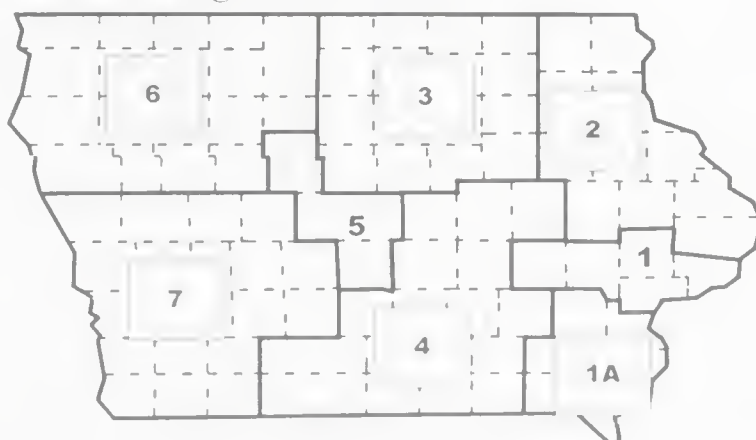
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Regional Districts



The Iowa Numismatic Association

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John Jackson

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(712) 274-9195 jjcoin1@hotmail.com



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.....615 Central Ave., Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 573-3033



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Rusty Crawford

.....P.O. Box 448, Glenwood, IA 51534
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LEGAL ADVISOR

Open

EDITOR: THE IOWA COLLECTOR

Denny Ross 7079 189th St., Albia, IA 52531-8771
(641) 932-2731 den72ny@gmail.com

From the Editor

Would you like to see news of your club's activities covered in *The Iowa Collector*? The editor welcomes news of club happenings in the *Iowa Numismatic Associations* region. Send any information on your upcoming coin show, election of new officers and other club news and articles, prepared by club members, to the Editor. Include any photographs with your article, to make your story more interesting.

Send to: Editor, *The Iowa Collector*
7079 189th Street
Albia, IA 52531-8771

Presidents Message

John Jackson



I would like to start with a thank you to the members of this fine organization for allowing me to serve as your President again. Also, a big thanks to Rusty Crawford for the job he has done in the last few years. It was great to see so many collectors, dealers and friends at the state show in Altoona. I look forward to seeing everyone in Nevada in February. Also a big hand to the Des Moines coin club for a wonderful show.

The INA board has seen some shortage of people to fill the spots and I would encourage any of you with an interest in getting involved at the state level to talk to a board member or myself about running for a seat in the next election. The time it takes is limited and not much more than running your local club. It is a great learning experience for all of us.

The current state of the hobby has been rough on the shops and dealers with both prices and demand down. But, as always, we will weather the tough times. As for the collectors, this is one of those opportunities that only comes along once in a great while.. We are seeing both large amounts of coins coming on the market and much lower prices.. So, this is a great chance to add some of those scarcer items to your collection.

As I think about the hobby, I look at some of the things I think are not helping the overall health of this great hobby. We are seeing overproduction by the UK Mint and too much value put on items of little value by mass marketing and internet dealers. A few things that we could all do to help more new and young collectors enjoy collecting is to get out and talk to people about older coins. And, for those items that have little value like worn out wheat cents , buffalo nickels and any other items like these, we could all start spending a few and giving out coins to anyone we meet, so that they may have the joy of finding something unique and exciting in their pocket change. Hopefully, we will add to the future of this hobby that we all love so much.

In closing, I would like to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season with friends and family and I look forward to another great year with our collector friends.

John Jackson



From The Secretary's Desk

Beverly Ashton



Hello from Fort Dodge. As I write this we are nearing the end of another year. I really don't know where the time has gone. I think I say this every year, but it still truly amazes me how quickly time passes.

This year was election time for the INA Board. It isn't too big of a surprise but you can read the results in the Board Meeting Minutes elsewhere in this issue of The Collector.

You should have received dues notices or will be receiving them soon. If you think you have already paid, you can contact me to be sure. Denny was sending them out and he may not always have updated information on everybody. Please make sure this is taken care of or you could get dropped from our mailing list.

It has been fun getting ready for Christmas with a new little one around to enjoy it all.

What are the Markets doing? Right now gold spot is around \$1,197.00, with silver about \$16.40.

See you at the shows.

Beverly Ashton

INA Secretary/Treasurer

INA Board and Membership Meeting Dates

The INA officers hold three board meetings each year and one open membership meeting. These meetings are held in conjunction with a coin show. The annual board meeting is held during the INA's Annual Coin Show & Convention which is hosted by a different Coin Club each year. The INA's officers board meeting is held the evening of the first day of the INA coin show and the open membership meeting is conducted on the morning of the second day of the INA coin show.

Regular INA Board meetings:

February 22, 2014 at Coin-a-Rama, Nevada, Iowa

July 13, 2014 at Central Iowa Coin & Stamp Expo, Altoona, Iowa

October 18, 2014 at Annual INA Show, Altoona, Iowa

October 19, 2014 Open membership meeting, Altoona, Iowa

President Rusty Crawford called the meeting to order. The minutes were read. Denny motioned they be accepted, Tom Robertson seconded and they were approved. The Treasurer's report was given with a balance of \$8,901.53 in the general fund. John Jackson motioned the report be accepted, Chris Seuntjens seconded and it was approved. Rusty reported the results of the election:

President	John Jackson	1 st Vice President	Dean Parr
Sec. Treas.	Beverly Ashton	District #1	Ron Lashmit
District #1A	Clarence Mitchell	District #2	Lee Roe
District #3	Don Wells	District #4	Denny Ross
District #5	Sam Ashton	District #6	Don McCulloch
District #7	Tom Flynn	At Large	David Stark
At Large	Robert Simon	At Large	Chris Seuntjens

Chris moved that we accept this part of the ballot so we could discuss the write-in votes for 2nd Vice President, Dale Dye seconded and it was passed. After much discussion over the many write-ins, Denny motioned we accept Brian Sparks nomination. Brian Sparks is our new 2nd Vice President.

Chris reported back on the audit. Chris read the report from Julie Fieh on her quick review of the books. Julie said that it looked like Bev was doing a good job and she did not see any discrepancies. She also gave a few pointers that may be utilized in the future.

Denny has been having major issues with his computer. Mostly it is outdated and won't work with the new operating systems because it is no longer compatible. He has been doing some research into what type of computer would be compatible with what Denny is using to get The Collector laid out for the printer. Chris motioned and Bob Simon seconded about Denny getting a new computer. John amended the motion to setting an upper limit of \$1,000.00, Chris seconded and it was passed.

There was discussion about whether we should reimburse speakers who come to do seminars. John motioned that we amend the convention manual to give the bourse chairman leeway to reimburse speakers up to \$250.00, Denny seconded and it was passed. There was discussion about raising the table fees by \$15.00 to \$140.00 for next year. Denny made a motion, Chris seconded and it was passed.

Bob Simon mentioned that with the counting of attendees they were able to do it appeared there had been about 280 people come through the door.

Rusty welcomed Tom Flynn (our new District #7 Director) to the board. Rusty then thanked everyone for making the past two year fun and interesting. We all thanked Rusty for being such a good President. Then we thanked Tom Robertson and Dale Dye for their long service on the board in various positions as they are now stepping down. Dale motioned we adjourn, Denny seconded and we adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Ashton, Secretary/Treasurer

From The Editors Desk

Denny Ross



Here it is , already the beginning of a new year and I'm still trying to figure out where last year went to so fast.

Last year saw precious metals prices all over the board. It's difficult to try and guess what bullion metals will do in the up coming year. Right now silver has shown a slight increase in prices over what it had been in the last couple of months. Overall the entire coin market has been down for quite sometime.

As we move forward to upcoming coin shows it will be interesting to see if there will be an increase in collector demands over the previous year.

Attendance at a lot of the shows was down from what dealers experienced from the previous year. Now is a good time to take advantage of the lower prices on many of the key dates in all series of collector coins and currency.

January is the start of the winter and spring coin show season beginning with shows in Council Bluffs this month and several shows in February including Dubuque, Council Bluffs and The Coin-A-Rama show in Nevada, the last weekend of February. March has several shows that month. Refer to the events calendar on page 12 of this issue for more coin show dates.

So, lots of opportunities to come out to the shows and support this great hobby of ours.

On another note. You should have received your yearly dues notices and sent payment to the INA Secretary by now . If you haven't you need to do so as soon possible to insure that you will continue receiving The Iowa Collector.

I'm looking forward to seeing many INA members at the up coming coin shows.

Trust that you have a prosperous new year and have lots of fun coin collecting

Denny Ross
Editor: The Iowa Collector

Starting Balance	INA Regular	ICTA Fund 0.00
	\$10,018.66	
Receipts		
Dues	32.00	
Ads	50.00	
Interest	<u>1.18</u>	
	83.18	
Expenses		
Plaza Printers - 50 yr pins	336.85	
Returned Collectors	12.74	
Ottumwa Printing Collector	800.70	
Ottumwa Printing-paper	9.63	
Office Max-ballot copies	24.54	
Wal-Mart-envelopes	<u>14.85</u>	
	1,200.13	
Current Balances	8,901.53	0.00
Checking	6,526.55	
Savings	2,334.98	0.00
Cash	<u>40.00</u>	
	8,901.53	<u>0.00</u>

INA Bylaws

The Bylaws can be viewed on the INA website: <http://inaanaclubs.org>
 A white copy, of the bylaws, can be obtained by contacting INA
 Secretary Beverly Ashton, 615 Central Avenue, Fort Dodge, IA 50501

SEMINAR SPEAKERS

- Tom Robertson (319) 351-2512 tdrobby(a)yahoo.com
Programs on - Seated Liberty series: 1/2 dime, dimes, quarters Half
dollars & seated dollars..
- Dale Dye (319) 351-3006
Programs on - Shields nickels, Liberty nickels, Buffalo nickels.
- Brian Fanton (319) 294-4377
Programs on - Grading, Boy and Girl Scout merit badge programs
Slabbing, The 'Art of coin collecting 'and general numismatic
topics.
- Denny Ross.....(641) 932-2731 den72ny(a)gmail.com
Program on - Lincoln cents 1909 thru 1958.
- Dean Parr (319) 366-0552 drparr(a)mehsi.com
Programs on - Foreign coins & World paper money.
- Lee Roe(563) 852-3517 hilltopcoin(a)netins.net
Programs on - Buying and selling coin collections. Slabbing.
- Steve Feller.....(319) 393-7052 sfeller(a)coe.edu
Programs on - POW Scrip, WW II Concentration Camp money, Civil
War money, The New Orleans mint, Ancient coins, and other topics.

SHOW COORDINATOR

- John Jackson (712) 274-9195 jjcoin1(a)hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

- Chris Seuntjens.....(515) 251-4031 chris(a)christophersjewelry.com

WEBMASTER

- Dean Parr (319) 366-0552 drparr(a)mehsi.com

When and where Coin Clubs Meet

Ames ----- Last Wednesday, Senior Citizens Center, 7:00 PM Scott Nichols
a (515) 232-9222

Burlington ----- Fourth Tuesday, No meeting in Dec., Burlington Public
Library, 210 Court St., 5:30 PM, Roger Armstrong *a* (319) 850-7339

Cedar Rapids ----- Third Wednesday, 7:30 PM, Rockwell Main Plant
Cafeteria, 35th St. N. E., Bob Johnson *a* (319) 573-6652

Clarion - Fourth Thursday, Pizza Ranch on Main St, 7:00 PM, Boyd LaRue
a (515) 532-0056 or Bill Soesbe *a* (515) 532-2155

Decorah ----- First Tuesday, V. F. W. Building basement, 104 State St 7:30
PM, Dave Sanderson *a* (563) 568-2371

Dubuque ----- First Thursday, A&W-OKY DOKY, 1st & Locust St.
Upstairs at 7:00 PM Neil Aitchison *a* (563) 556-5254

Des Moines -- First Tuesday, St. Marks Episcopal Church, 3120 E 24th, 7:00
PM, Robert Simon *a* (515) 251-4031

Fort Dodge ----- Second Thursday, ICC East Campus, 7:00 PM, Sam
Ashton *a* (515) 573-3033

Glenwood Coin Club - Second Thursday, Glenwood Coin Shop, 13 North
Vine Street, Suite 2, 7:00 PM, Tom Flynn (712) 527-4321

Grinnell ----- Second Monday, Community Center (Senior Citizens Room)
7:30 PM, George Fowler *a* (641) 236-3549

Hiawatha ----- Fourth Wednesday (except June & July), Hiawatha Library
150 W Willman St. (or the shop) 7:00 PM, Brian Fanton *a* (319) 294-4377

Keokuk ----- Third Thursday every month, Keokuk Public Library, 210
North 5th Street 7:00 PM, Tom Gardner *a* (319) 524-7366

Old Capitol (Iowa City) ----- Second Tuesday, Veteran's Administration
Hospital (Third floor cafeteria), Hwy 6, 7:00 PM Tom Robertson *a*
(319) 351-2512

Oskaloosa --- Second Thursday each month, 103 High Avenue 7:30 PM
Clarence McKee *a* (641) 672-2763

Ottumwa - Fourth Tuesday, Albia Road Baptist Church, 1601 Albia Road (Basement), 7:00 PM, Kermit Uhde (641) 682-0525

Port City (Muscatine) - Fourth Tuesday (Dec meeting 3rd Tue), Musco Lighting, 2107 Stewart Rd., Muscatine 7 PM, Jim Burr (563) 262-9313

Quad City (Moline, IL) - Third Thursday, Garden Center, 5th Ave and 34th Street, 7:00 PM, Robert Hook *at* (309) 949-3707

Sionxland (Sionx City) - First Tuesday, First United Methodist Church, 1915 Nebraska Street, 7:00 PM, John Jackson *at* (712) 274-9195

Storm Lake - Second Tuesday, Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 119 West 6th Street, 7:00 PM, Russ Post *at* (712) 284-2110

Wadena - Third Thursday, Historical Center, West Union, IA, 7:30 PM Dr. James F. Ralls *at* (319) 283-4440

Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Second Tuesday, Waterloo Arts & Rec. Center, First & Commercial Streets, 7:00 PM, Dennis Braeken *at* (319) 231-8385

Dear I.N.A. Member

The 2015 year is here. We encourage you to support the I.N.A. with your ad in The Collector. The rates are:

Full Page	\$100.00	Half Page	\$60.00
	Quarter Page	\$30.00	

Ad rates for private shows will be prorated from the normal yearly advertising rates.

Full page ads for INA Coin Clubs are \$10.00. Non INA Coin Clubs are \$25.00.

There are 3 issues of our deluxe publication, with a 4th issue when needed. Anyone would be proud to have their ad in "The Collector". We try to get articles and information for the good of our members. We encourage everyone to write an article concerning numismatic information which might help other collectors, especially our new members.

Thank you for your sponsorship!

Chris Seuntjens
3427 Merle Hay Rd.,
Des Moines, IA 50310

The Iowa Collector is published 3 times a year
Publication dates:
January, May, & September

2015 Coin Show Calendar

Jan 18 Monthly Collectors Show - Hilton Garden Inn, 2702 Mid America Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (402) 720-2255

Feb 15 Tri-State-Coin Show - Diamond Joe's Casino, 302 Bell Street, Dubuque, IA (9 - 4) Richard Hillard (563) 557-7210

Feb 15 Monthly Collectors Show - Hilton Garden Inn, 2702 Mid America Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (402) 720-2255

Feb 21-22 Coin-A-Rama - Gates Hall, 825 15th Street, Nevada, IA (9 - 5), (9 - 3) Scott Nichols (515) 232-9222

Mar 8 Cedar Rapids Coin Show - Elks Lodge, 801 33rd Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA (9 - 4) Mark Johnson (319) 651-3923 e-mail: mark@mjcoins.com

Mar 15 Monthly Collectors Show - Hilton Garden Inn, 2702 Mid America Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (402) 720-2255

March 22 Port City Coin Show - The Rendezvous, 3127 Lucas Street, Muscatine, IA (9 - 4) Jim Burr (563) 262-9313

March 28-29 Fort Dodge Coin Show - Crossroads Mall, 5th Ave. S & 25th St., Fort Dodge, IA (10 - 6), (10 - 4) Sam & Bev Ashton (515) 573-3033

April 11 Clarion Fall Coin Show - Clarion High School, 111 Willow Drive, Clarion, IA (9-4) Boyd LaRue (515) 532-9956 or Bill Soesbe (515) 532-2155

April 12 Quad City Coin Show - The Camden Center, Camden Park, U.S. Route 67, Milan, IL (9 - 4) John Brixy (309) 788-8726 WK days after 4:00pm

April 19 Monthly Collectors Show - Hilton Garden Inn, 2702 Mid America Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (402) 720-2255

April 26 Waterloo Coin Show - Waterloo Recreation Center, West First & Commerce Streets, Waterloo, IA Dennis Bracken (319) 231-8385 djb55m@mehsi.com

Coin-A-Rama

February 21 - 22

Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday 9 am - 3:00 pm

Gates Hall 825 15th Street

Nevada, Iowa

Join the Iowa Numismatic Association

Membership

Any person interested in numismatics, over 18 years of age, of good moral character may become a member upon recommendation of the membership committee. Dues are \$10.00 per year.

Object

The object of this corporation shall be to:

Encourage and promote the science of numismatics.

Cultivate fraternal relationships among coin collectors and students.

Foster the interest of youth in the subject.

Encourage and assist new collectors.

Stimulate and advance affiliations between our associations and kindred organizations in the United States and foreign countries.

Acquire and disseminate numismatic knowledge.

Generally represent numismatic interests throughout the State of Iowa.

Junior members

Any person between the ages of 0 and 18 years old and sponsored by a senior member may be considered for junior membership. Junior members may not hold office, but may vote for elective offices. Dues to be \$2.00 per year.

Officers

Officers are elected every two years by membership vote, by mail ballot, and take office at the annual convention following election. Officers consist of 16 members, including the President, the First and Second Vice Presidents, the Secretary/Treasurer, the immediate Past-President, and 11 Directors.

The annual membership meeting is held each year at the Iowa Numismatic Associations Annual Convention held in the fall.

The Iowa Collector, the official bulletin, is published three times each year and sent to each member. The I.N.A., upon request, will help the heirs of any member in good standing find a qualified person or persons, in his area, to appraise an estate.

For further information about the I.N.A. contact any member, director or officer. An application has been enclosed with this issue of The Iowa Collector. To join fill it in and send it along with your check to:

Beverly Ashton
615 Central Avenue
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 573-3033

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE IOWA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

I hereby make application for membership in the "IOWA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION", subject to the provisions of its Articles of Incorporation and By-laws.

Send this application together with \$10.00 for the current years dues
Young applicants dues are \$2.00 per year until the age eighteen

Note: The I.N.A. year runs from January 1st to January 1st

Date _____

Applicants Name (please print)

Mailing address

E-mail address _____

Phone # _____

City

State

Zip Code

Date and Year of Birth

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Proposer

I.N.A. or A.N.A. Number _____

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Port City Coin Club

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Annual Coin Show

Sunday March 22nd, 2015



9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The Rendezvous

3127 Lucas Street



Muscatine, Iowa

Coins - Tokens - Currency

Public Welcome

Door Prizes

Free Admission

Free Parking

6 foot tables - \$30.00 each

Sponsored by: Port City Coin Club

P.O. Box 682

Muscatine, Iowa 52761

Information: Jim Burr (563) 262-9313

**Port City Coin Club meets the Fourth Tuesday 7:00PM
at Musco Lighting, 2107 Stewart Road, Muscatine, Iowa**

Visitors always Welcome

Coin-A-Rama

February 21st & 22nd, 2015

Sat. 9am - 5 pm Sun. 9 am - 3 pm



Gates Hall
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Bourse Chairman
Scott Nichols
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Meets last Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm
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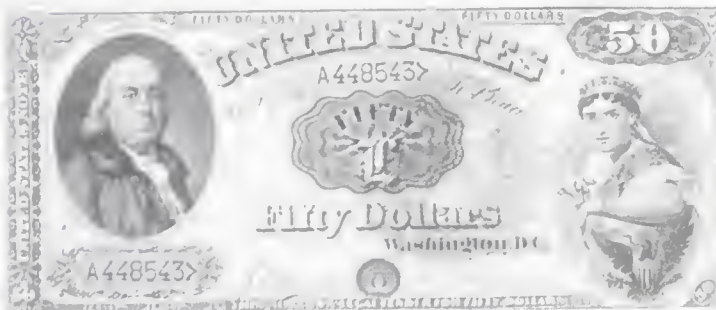
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In what year was the first Kennedy half dollars produced??

A. 1963

C. 1964

B. 1965

D. 1970

Who designed the obverse of the Kennedy half dollar?.

A. Frank Gasparro

C. Christian Gobrecht

B. Gilroy Roberts

D. John R. Sinnock

Answers to above inside back page

The purpose of the INA is to bring together those persons interested in the hobby of collecting coins. To encourage active participation in Numismatics. To encourage the principles of fair dealing. To study the history of the world through the art of coin, currency, and exnumia. To provide a forum for Iowa numismatists to share their interests and knowledge with prospective new collectors.



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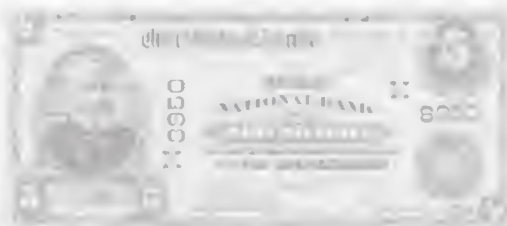
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The Forgotten Silver Kennedy Half Dollar

From Coin Values Discovery

Released into circulation in the mid 1960's and 1970's, silver Kennedy half dollars represent the end of an era in circulating silver US coins.

Additionally, these early halves are significantly more valuable than today's modern half dollars.

The opportunity to you is most people don't realize, or remember, they contain a large amount of silver. Lets start with the first year 1964, a very special year. In 1964 the new silver Kennedy half dollars were introduced and contained a hefty 90% silver content. The minimum value is \$6.10 each.

These halves were released into circulation in huge numbers, to the total of over 429 million pieces. And importantly, quantities are still with us today as most were saved in remembrance of President Kennedy's assassination.

A Change In Silver Content

The following years however, 1965 through 1970 the metal alloy composition was changed to a 40% silver content and an additional total of more than 846 million were minted. Minimum value of these is \$2.27 each with silver in the \$16.09 per ounce range. It is this group of coins that represent the real opportunity because.....1971 is the pivotal year when the metal alloy composition was changed to the modern Clad alloy, a copper core sandwiched between outer layers of copper-nickel. These later modern halves contained no silver.

Today's Silver Opportunity

And that brings us to today, where the situation is.... in many peoples holdings the silver halves are casually grouped together with clad coinage. Not realizing the value of the silver halves they occasionally slip back into circulation by spending or exchanging them for cash at the bank.

Take the initiative, visit the lobby of your bank and obtain rolls of half dollars. Give them a thorough search for the silver Kennedy half dollars. Furthermore, should you find any US halves dated 1964 and prior, congratulations, all are 90% silver and worth at least \$6.10 each, some even more valuable as collectibles. As you hopefully begin to find a few silver halves, the task does become easier. There is a slight color difference between the clad and silver halves and your eyes quickly adjust to detect the variance.

Widen your net, visit many of your local banks, and search through the floating supply of half dollars in your area. You just may end up with your own box of valuable old coins. The Silver Kennedy half dollars are out there, in the millions, waiting for you to discover. Are any worth more than silver value? An excellent question, and the answer is yes, but....

The Silver Plus Opportunity

The values quoted above is the value of silver in the coin. Dealers and collectors refer to this as the bullion value. Silver Kennedy half dollars are worth more than bullion value to collectors if, and this is important.... the coin is "Uncirculated." This is a coin best described as one in brand new condition, with no sign of wear. Most silver halves you find, unfortunately, will have slight wear, evident on the high points of the design. However, I am sure many were saved each year as they were minted, so there is always the possibility of finding some in "Uncirculated" condition. And if the coin is outstanding in appearance, there is the possibility of higher value.

Grading Condition and Looking for Uncirculated Halves

Examine your coins, look for evidence of wear on the high points of the design, most notable on the cheek and shield. Just for fun, as you are looking through all those halves, pick out a example of each date and mint mark as you find them.

Mint marks are used to indicate the branch mint that produced the coin. "D" for Denver, "S" for San Francisco and in 1980, the Philadelphia mint began using a "P" mint mark. In the first year of issue - 1964, the mint mark is on the reverse, a "D" indicates the Denver mint. If your half is without a mint mark it was minted at the Philadelphia mint. Starting in 1968 mint marks were placed on the obverse.



Note: the San Francisco coins are special proof coins packaged and issued as collectibles. It is doubtful many will find their way into circulation. But there is always that chance.

The Kennedy half dollar is a long running series spanning from 1964 to present. As an added benefit you can assemble an extensive Kennedy half dollar collection of your own.

After pulling the coins you want, exchange the rest for more unsearched rolls at the bank and continue the hunt for the forgotten Silver Kennedy Half Dollars.

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Which Coin Series Commands The Highest Prices?

By Jamie Hernandez

If I asked you to name the coin series that brings the highest prices at auction out of the following five coin series, which would you choose: Lincoln Cents, Jefferson Nickels, Roosevelt Dimes, Washington Quarters or Franklin Half Dollars? In this analysis I used coins within the same date range that currently have similar population statistics. Some of these coins sold for the prices listed at auction and others privately.

1c 1954-P Lincoln Cent MS67 Red	\$20,000 (Pop 3 0)
5c 1954-S MS67FS	\$50,000 (Pop 1 0)
10c 1950-P MS68 FB	\$12,500 (Pop 2 0)
25c 1955-D MS67	\$25,000 (Pop 1 0)
50c 1953-S MS66 FBL	\$69,000 (Pop 1 0)

At first glance it appears as if Franklin Half Dollars bring higher prices overall compared to all four other coin series, so Franklin Half Dollars would be ranked # 1. Jefferson Nickels would be ranked as # 2 and Washington Quarters would be ranked as # 3. Surprisingly, Lincoln Cents would be ranked as # 4 (I actually thought they would rank 1 or 2). Finally, Roosevelt Dimes would be ranked #5.

However, before we rate these five different series, we need to take into account that Washington Quarters are the only series in this group that do not have a special designation. For example, Franklin Half Dollars have the FBL (Full Bell Lines) designation, Roosevelt Dimes have the FB (Full Bands) designation, Jefferson Nickels have the FS (Full Steps) designation and the Lincoln Cents have the BN (Brown), RB (Red-Brown) and RD (Red) designations.

Initially, PCGS didn't always recognize FB on dimes; however, once we began to recognize some dimes with the FB designation, they immediately commanded much higher prices. Furthermore, for the Washington Quarters series, it can be argued that prices would probably be significantly higher if we were to have a special designation such as PL (Proof-like) or Full Talons, etc. (This is just an example, as we are not planning to add any special designations on Washington Quarters now... or in the future).

Another point that needs to be taken into account is that, for some series, small increases in the population of high end coins do not drastically affect prices. For example, if a Lincoln Cent in the highest grade jumps from say a population of 3 to a population of 4, prices seem to be affected minimally. Instead of the coin bringing say \$17,500 as a pop 3 it would probably now bring \$15,000 as a pop 4.

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Therefore, small increases in population figures do not tend to affect Lincoln Cents as much as other series. Now in the Jefferson Nickel series, a population increase from say a pop 2 to a pop 3 can drastically affect the prices of all three coins. This change could bring each Jefferson Nickel from a price of say \$20,000 down to \$12,000. This same logic seems to apply to Roosevelt Dimes as well. And as far as Franklin Half Dollars and Washington Quarters, in my experience, I think prices are somewhat affected but not as much as Jefferson Nickels or Roosevelt Dimes... but at the same time, they do seem to be affected more so than Lincoln Cents.

So, for the purposes of this article, I think we can conclude that Lincoln Cents have a larger audience than Franklin Half Dollars. At the same time, Franklin Half Dollars bring higher prices overall than the four other series to which they were compared. So how do we answer the original question of which coin series brings the highest prices? I would rate them in this order:

#1 Franklin Half Dollars #2 Jefferson Nickels #3 Washington Quarters
#4 Lincoln Cents #5 Roosevelt Dime. Next time we will compare some other coin series, possibly some early Wheat Lincoln Cents, Buffalo Nickels, Barber Dimes, Barber Half Dollars and some Morgan and Peace Dollar.

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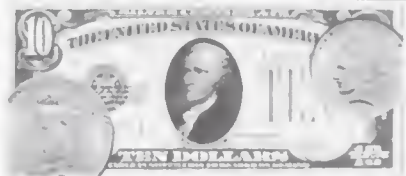
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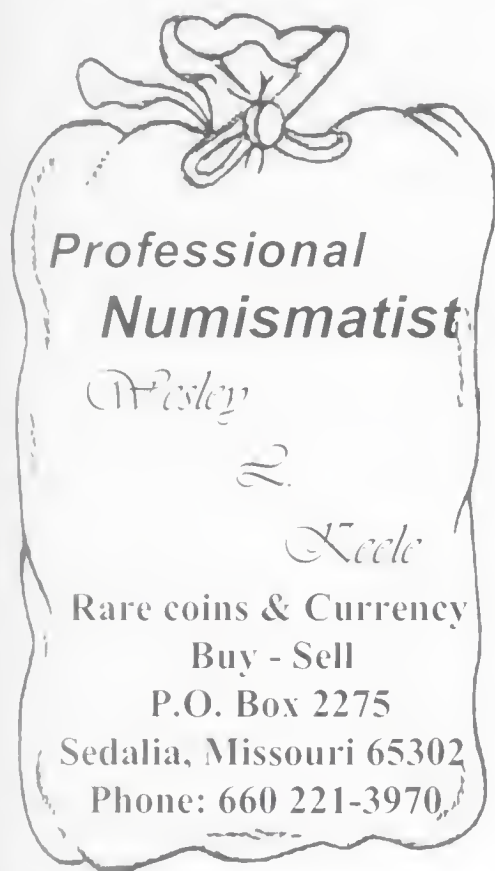
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